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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01702 011051Z

12
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /153 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9498
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
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AMCONSUL LUANDA
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AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USCINCEUR
DIA
COMUSFORAZ
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PO
SUBJ: "DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT" MEETS WITH SPINOLA, REPORTS
DIFFERENCES AFTERWARDS

SUMMARY: DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT LEADERS, WHO MET WITH
SPINOLA APRIL 29, REPORTED AFTERWARDS THAT WHILE
MEETING CORIDLA, A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICY DIFFERENCES
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PAGE 02 LISBON 01702 011051Z

BECAME SPPARENT. AMONG THOSE MENTIONED WERE SPEED OF DIS-

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

MANTLING "FASCIST" APPARATUS, NECESSITY FOR PREPARING OVERSEAS FOR SELF-DETERMINATION, AND ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN PORTUGUESE POLITICAL FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. MID-DAY APRIL 29 REPRESENTATIVES OF DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MD) MET WITH GEN SPINOLA FOR 90 MINUTES DURING WHICH THEY PRESENTED HIM WITH MEMORANDUM. MD SPOKESMAN IN PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER MEETING DESCRIBED ENCOUNTER AS "VERY CORDIAL", AND SAID SPINOLA TOLD MD DELEGATION HE AGREED WITH GENERAL LINES PRESENTED IN MEMORANDUM. (CONTENT OF MEMORANDUM, HOWEVER, NOT REVEALED TO PRESS). SPOKESMAN SAID MD DELEGATE JOSE TENGARRINHA EXPRESSED TO SPINOLA HIS APPREHENSION AT THE SLOWNESS AT WHICH "FASCIST" APPARATUS BEING DISMANTLED BY JUNTA. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SPINOLA THEN PROMISED TO ACCELERATE THIS DISMANTLING PROCESS (BUT DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT HE HAD IN MIND). SPINOLA ALSO TOLD MD DELEGATION THAT HE WILL TRY TO SHORTEN ORIGINAL THREE-WEEK PERIOD PRIOR TO SELECTION OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

2. MD SPOKESMAN PEREIRA DE MOURA TOLD PRESS THAT JUNTA AND MD DISAGREE ON COLONIAL ISSUE. HE SAID MD'S POSITION "CLASHES HEAD ON" WITH SPINOLA'S IN THAT MD BELIEVES PEOPLE IN THE OVERSEAS PROVINCES READY NOW FOR SELF-DETERMINATION, WHILE SPINOLA CONSIDERS MORE TIME REQUIRED TO PREPARE PEOPLE AND CLARIFY ISSUES.

3. ACCORDING PRESS SPINOLA BELIEVES IT WOULD BE BAD FOR COUNTRY IF MYRIAD POLITICAL PARTIES OR CURRENTS SPRING UP, AND THAT ONLY REPRESENTATIVE PARTIES SHOULD BE RUN IN ELECTIONS FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND FORM PART OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. MD, HOWEVER, SAID TO LOOK FAVORABLY ON EXISTENCE OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES EXCEPT "FASCIST" ONES LIKE ACCAO NACIONAL POPULAR (ANP).

4. DIFFERENCE AND RELATIONS BETWEEN SPINOLA AND LEFTIST GROUPS, SUCH AS MD, SOCIALISTS, ETC., WILL BE TREATED IN SEPTEL.

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5. COMMENT: MD IS NEW NAME GIVEN TO VARIOUS "DEMOCRATIC" MOVEMENTS AND CDE (DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL COMMISSION) GROUPS WHICH AGREED APRIL 28 TO FORM A UNITED NATIONAL FRONT WITHOUT DISSOLVING THEIR OWN SEPARATE IDENTITIES AND PARTY STRUCTURES. JUDGING BY COMPOSITION MD'S 17-MAN PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE MOVEMENT GROUPS UNDER ITS UMBRELLA PROGRESSIVE CATHOLICS, LEFT-WING SOCIALISTS, AND COMMUNISTS. IT IS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE

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WHO WILL PREDOMINATE. ALTHOUGH MARIO SOARES BRIEFLY APPEARED AND SALUTED MOVEMENT HE IS NOT ON ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WHICH APPARENTLY HAS NO SINGLE LEADER. THE MOVEMENT SEEMS MUCH LIKE THE CDE FRONT WHICH RAN IN 1969 ELECTIONS, WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL LEFT-WING PARTIES, INCLUDING COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS. (1969 COALITION FELL APART IN 1973 CAMPAIGN, WHEN MOST SOCIALISTS REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNIST-DOMINATED CDE). SCOTT

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